quired to take appropriate steps so that medical services could be provided to the general public when such situations arise. The Hospital authorities generally hold meetings with the employees' representatives to sort out their grievances.

Setting up of State Blood Transfusion Council in Maharashtra

2038. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Blood Transfusion Council has been set up in Maharashtra as per Supreme Court Judgement of 4th January, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when such a council will be set up in the State?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Maharashtra State Blood Transfusion Council has been set up as a Society registered under the Registration of Societies Act, 1860 (Regn. No. 118/1997 G.B.B.S.D.)

(c) and (d) Questions do not arise.

Experiment in Contraceptives

2039. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Statesman, New Delhi edition dated 25th April, 1998 under the caption "No more guinea-pigs for W Contraceptives"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIORNMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is imperative that newer contraceptive technologies are made available to Indian women so that there is wider choice of contraceptives for them to choose from.

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has a rigorous review mechanism for conduction of clinical trials. Adequate steps are taken in the interest of our women while conducting research with newer contraceptive technologies in Indian context.

Eradication of Malaria

2040. PROF. RAM KAPSE:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 33 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 20th November, 1997 and state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Malaria continues in rampage" which appeared in Times of India (Bombay) on 27th November, 1997 regarding continuance of Palasmodium falciparum in certain parts of the country and Jabri malaria sparked off fear among public in Gujarat, Calcutta etc.;

(b) if so, the details of the special efforts made or proposed to be made to eradicate the disease totally;

(c) if not, the reasons for failure to take adequate remedial and preventive measures; and

(d) by when an affective programme for total eradication of the disease will be commenced by Government?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The steps taken for Prevention & Control of Malaria including P.f. malaria are:—

— 100% Central Assistance is being provided to the Seven North-Eastern States since December, 1994, beside a Centrally sponsored Programme on a 50:50 basis under NMEP for other States in the country.

— Early diagnosis and prompt treatment of Malaria cases through Primary Health Care System, Hospitals, Dispensaries, Malaria Clinics etc. and Drug distribution Centres, Fever Treatment Depots at the Village level, is undertaken by the State Governments.